GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4987
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008
EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND GLOBAL WARMING
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the study conducted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation Development on the effects of global warming and climate change along the Indian coastline;

(b) if so, the details of the study report thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps and measures the Government proposes to take to meet the challenge of climate change and global warming?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir.

A study has been conducted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation Development on the effect of Global Warming and Climate Change along the coastline for different countries which also mentions two Indian cities namely Kolkata and Mumbai. The study indicates that these coastal cities will be exposed to coastal flooding caused by storm surge and damage from high winds. However, such impact studies are open to several uncertainties, due to regional model approximations.

(c) Recently, the Government has set up a Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change to coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The Ministry of Environment and Forests have also constituted an Expert Committee on Climate Change impacts, which is headed by the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Cabinet. The range of policies and programs are being considered to mitigate climate change which include improving energy efficiency and conservation as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency, power sector reforms, promoting hydro and renewable energy, promotion of nuclear energy, promotion of clean coal technology, coal washing and efficient utilization of coal, afforestation and conservation of forests and reduction of gas flaring, use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport and encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems.